

## Sale of Army Food Attracts 100,000 Buyers

Receipts at 58 Stations Reach Double Record of Previous Day; Still Bigger Business Is Expected

## Vegetable Trade Halted Purchases of Low-Priced Canned Goods Kill Market for Fresh Product

More than 100,000 New York City housewives did the greater portion of their week end shopping yesterday at the fifty-eight public schools where surplus army foodstuffs are being sold.

New sales records were established everywhere. Dr. Jonathan C. Day, Commissioner of Public Markets, announced that during the two hours of the morning sales session more food was sold than during the entire five hours of the previous day. He estimated that the sales total was double that of Friday, or \$120,000, purchased by more than 100,000 customers. No fair estimate on the number of pounds of foodstuffs disposed of could be made, Dr. Day said.

City officials are amazed and gratified by the unexpected demand for the supplies. During the three days of the sale more than \$200,000 worth of army foodstuffs have been sold to 150,000 customers, representing approximately 900,000 consumers.

### Lighters To Be Used Tomorrow

Dr. Day declared the sales to-morrow and succeeding days will average well over \$100,000 due to the provision of more adequate distribution facilities. Three lighters will be used to-morrow. One will carry supplies from the army bases to Brooklyn, landing at the Wallabout Market, another will supply Manhattan, unloading at the recreation pier at East Twenty-fourth Street, and the third will deposit foodstuffs at the Barge Canal terminal in the Bronx.

The lighters have a carrying capacity of 400 tons, compared to the five or six tons of the trucks. This will facilitate transportation and probably increase the sales by 25 per cent at each station, Dr. Day said. He added that it will increase the varieties of foodstuffs each depot and promote larger sales in this way.

The consumers' appetite for canned goods, for sale at 25 per cent below market prices, has caused a falling off in the demand for fresh vegetables, it was learned yesterday. Dealers reported the market glutted with vegetables because of the heavy receipts and the slackened demand.

### Potatoes and Beans Drop

The wholesale price of potatoes tumbled from \$5 a 100-pound bag to \$3.50 during yesterday's trading, while the price of Long Island wax beans dropped from \$1.25 a basket to 50 cents. The onion market slumped splendidly, from the consumers' standpoint, during the week. Long Island yellow onions were quoted at \$4.25 to \$4.50 a barrel last Saturday and \$2.25 to \$2.50 yesterday, a 50 per cent decrease. The quotations on peas were lowered slightly.

A canvass of prices, however, revealed that their prices have not been altered because of the army sale, except in a few instances. Most of the dealers were disappointed by the prospect of the sale of army food being continued for thirty days.

Edwin J. O'Malley and William H. Smith, deputy market commissioners, communicated with Captain A. A. Stewart, zone surplus property officer, yesterday, and asked for shipments of prunes, raisins, canned pineapple, evaporated peaches and evaporated apples. Captain Stewart said he would consider that these supplies will be on their way to the school houses before the end of next week. Prices for these commodities have not been fixed, he said, but he expects they will be from 20 to 30 per cent below the best quotations any retailer can give his best customers.

### Bacon in Strong Demand

As on Friday, bacon proved the most popular commodity offered yesterday. More than 50,000 pounds was cut and weighed at the Queensboro Market storehouse and shipped to the various sales depots. Within about one hour, Dr. Day said, directors of stations were cutting up frantically, asking for bacon and more bacon. The general belief that the bacon would be without a lean streak has been dispelled.

Dr. Day said yesterday the sale might continue for months. He said when the schools open hours for the sale might be changed to from 3 p. m. to 9, allowing the same time as at present, and giving wives an opportunity of impressing their husbands into carrying service. This was done to a large degree yesterday, and spouses who expected to spend the afternoon at bus and games elsewhere found themselves losing flesh under fifty or sixty pounds of assorted commodities.

The sales will not be held Tuesday, Dr. Day said. Following Labor Day, he said, the salesrooms would be closed every Monday, as well as Sunday. He appealed for volunteer workers, especially those accustomed to handling financial accounts. The press of hundreds before each cashier's booth yesterday proved a severe handicap in the sale, as on the two days previous. With two or three cashiers at each station Dr. O'Malley believes that the sales would be increased by 30 per cent or more. Volunteers should communicate with him in the Municipal Building.

### Denies Other Towns Suffer

Dr. Day took exception yesterday to reports that other towns were being afflicted, as the army food was diverted to New York City. He declared the government is distributing the commodities equitably.

"I would also like to make myself clear on the delay in offering the food to the public for sale," Dr. Day said. "From some of the newspaper accounts the impression might have been gathered that the army was to blame because of its distribution of foodstuffs within the thirteen zones. The army officers, as a matter of fact, did everything in their power to assist us. It was only a matter of making sure of our organization before attempting to do business with an eager, clamoring public."

The reports that some of the women workers are being paid are false. No one is being paid except the laborers doing the heavy work. These men will work through Sunday, cutting and weighing huge shipments of bacon. Their work is the kind which we could ask no volunteer to do."

The amounts of canned goods received and disposed of yesterday were 3,000 cases of canned goods from Port Newark and 11,900 cases from the army bases in Brooklyn. There were additional supplies on hand in the various schools.

### Drop in Market Predicted

Dr. Day declared he firmly believes prices of commodities will drop in the city because of the demand for army food. He said conditions further would

## Day to Refuse Pulpit To Aid Food Campaign

DR. JONATHAN C. DAY, Commissioner of Public Markets, yesterday received a call to go as pastor to the Trinity Presbyterian Church of San Francisco. The call said he was also to act as industrial secretary of the San Francisco press-bureau.

Dr. Day said that he did not believe he would accept, since, in his estimation, the distribution of food at moderate prices was as good a gospel as he could preach at present.

He is relieved by the Federal licensing of all wholesalers, packers and other interstate handlers of foodstuffs. This would eliminate extra middlemen, he said.

In an attempt to exclude dealers and hotel and restaurant men from participating in the sale of army supplies, a finance committee of women was formed yesterday by Mrs. Julia Saunders, in charge of the sales on the West Side, from Fourteenth to 110th Street. Suspicious looking purchasers were trailed and their destinations reported.

A scheme of netting profits was evolved by a number of youngsters at one of the East side schools. Deputy Commissioner O'Malley reported yesterday. The boys, with little wagons made of soap boxes, started at the station early in the morning. Mr. O'Malley said, and purchased large quantities of canned goods. By the time the sales depot opened about 1,000 pounds of netting had been sold. The boys rolled their wagons along the line, offering to sell the canned goods, delivered at the buyer's home, for one cent more than they paid.

The line was successful, Mr. O'Malley said, as the delivery of the supplies proved attractive because of the warmth of the day. No attempt was made to interfere with the little business men.

### Demand for Soups Light

Canned soups, never very popular with many housewives, passed quiet and undisturbed day in the Bronx. The demand at all the stations for the soups was extremely light. Housewives said they could duplicate the city's price at any grocery store.

Public School No. 3, at Hudson and Grove streets, was besieged by 5,000 eager purchasers at the opening hour. The line of prospective customers girded the block. The bacon disappeared quickly, and canned tomatoes were carried off by the hundreds.

Bryant High School in Queens attracted thousands of purchasers and ran up a sales total of almost \$3,000 before the end of the day. Erasmus Hall High School, in Brooklyn, was the third busiest of the sales depots. City Chamberlain Philip Berolzheimer announced last night the Public National Bank of New York has been selected to handle all finances in connection with the sale of army food by the city. Its vaults will be kept open each night by special arrangement, to receive the currency brought by two assistant cashiers under escort of several policemen.

### Gouging Checked By Food Crusade

By Food Crusade

## Williams Summarizes Benefits Won by U. S., State and City Fight

The concerted efforts of Federal, state and city officials to reduce the cost of living have checked a consistent upward price trend of nearly a year, development, Arthur Williams, Federal Food Administrator, declared yesterday.

Mr. Williams admitted that prices have not been made to decline by the intensive warfare of the last two weeks, but he contended the choking off of fluctuations, with their predominating upward tendencies, has been accomplished. He is satisfied that many of the grocers are abiding by the price lists issued by the fair price committee, but says the task of lining up the butchers has not been completed.

He summarized the effects of the labor of the fair price committee and the state and municipal agencies fighting the high living cost as follows:

1. They have released large quantities of hoarded goods and placed them in circulation to bring the supply nearer to the demand.

2. The rise in prices has been checked, those engaged in the foodstuffs traffic having been made to feel that a social and economic crisis would be precipitated by continued price advances.

### Profiteering Eliminated

3. Profiteering in foodstuffs have been practically eliminated by the publication of fair prices and fair price margins, placing a formidable weapon in the hands of housewives.

4. People have been taught to aid themselves by purchasing substantial but cheaper grades of food. This education has not been completed by any means, Mr. Williams said.

Mr. Williams declared he has received information that large stores of food held for higher prices are being thrown onto the market. Those not hoarding for export, he said, have demonstrated to them by the publication of fair prices that they never can make huge profits on their holdings. He added that he has no desire to interfere with food hoarding held to supply the consumptive demand during the period of scant and no production.

In discussing the checking of the general advance in prices, Mr. Williams said a canvass of almost 1,000 shops in this city yesterday morning showed most of the "basic" commodities are being sold for less than the fair price margins. He answered the criticism of consumers who have said the margins are excessive by saying that a number of dealers fix special prices for one or two commodities, selling them at little or no profit to attract customers.

### Chain Prices Compared

He issued the following price list, showing the fair prices and those asked yesterday morning by chain stores:

Chain Stores  
Lima Beans 10-12 12-13  
Soy Beans 11-12 12-13  
Peas 11-12 12-13  
Rice 10-12 12-13  
Rolled Oats 6-8 8-10  
Cornmeal 6-8 8-10  
Flour 10-12 12-13  
Sugar 10-12 12-13  
Bread 12-14 14-16  
Tomatoes 13-15 15-17  
Peas 13-15 15-17  
Salmon 22-24 24-26  
Eggs 12-14 14-16  
Fr. Crm But. 58-62 62-64  
Eggs 12-14 14-16  
Potatoes 4-5 5-6  
Onions 2-4 4-5

Mr. Williams asserted the price of sugar has been reduced by about five cents a pound in many sections of the city, while rice has dropped about three cents a pound since the beginning of the present agitation. A comparison of the prices given by Mr. Williams and those asked at several chain stores last week revealed reductions in the cheese and canned goods prices.

Mr. Williams said he feels that as long as the essential commodities are regulated the others will take care of themselves. He said no effort would be made to interfere with the legitimate

## Congress Will Adopt Palmer's Fair Price Plan

Senate Agriculture Committee Is Unable to Develop Substitute for His Method of Food Control

Will Give Him Big Fund

Republican Leaders Say Court Action Is Only Way to Solve the Problem

WASHINGTON, Aug. 23.—The subcommittee appointed by the Senate Agriculture Committee to work out some means of determining fair prices for foodstuffs and wearing apparel, for inclusion with Attorney General Palmer's amendments in the food control act, reached the conclusion to-day that a "fair price" cannot be accurately defined.

It will be recommended to the full committee on Monday that United States attorneys be given authority to create fair price committees. Dealers charged more than the prices set in the fair price lists prepared by the committees would be deemed guilty of profiteering and liable to prosecution.

There is much objection to installing such a system, said Senator Gronna, chairman of the Agriculture Committee, "but it may be the best that can be secured. Such legislation would give these committees executive, legislative and judicial authority. Under the Constitution dealers charging more than the prices fixed must, of course, be given a jury trial. Nevertheless, the powers to be given these committees would be very broad, and there is certain to be much opposition in the Senate."

The plan evolved by the subcommittee to determine a method of fixing fair prices is in line with the proposal of Attorney General Palmer. The Attorney General planned to use this method, but without giving legal authority to the fair price committee he has organized. It was expected that Mr. Palmer would approve the course decided upon by the subcommittee, and that the legislation would be enacted in the Senate next week.

## Union Heads Deny New B. R. T. Strike Is Planned by Men

Reports that the employees of the B. R. T. were contemplating another walk-out because of delay in the arbitration of their differences with the company were emphatically denied by their leaders yesterday. Patrick J. Shea, vice-president of the Amalgamated Association of Street and Electric Railway Employees, declared that he looks for no trouble of any kind, at least until the arbitration proceedings have been completed.

He can say for me and the other officials of the Amalgamated Association, Shea, "that there is nothing to this report of another strike. The men are standing together and they realize they must settle their differences. We know next Tuesday what the company offers, and a meeting has been called for Wednesday for them to decide on the acceptance or rejection of the award."

The men had been excited, too, over a rumor to the effect that they would be granted a 25 per cent increase instead of the flat rate of 75 cents an hour which they demanded. From reliable sources it was learned, however, that the award would probably approximate a nine-hour day with pay for ten, and an increase in wages of 25 per cent.

Representatives of the brotherhoods of Locomotive Engineers and Railway Trainmen who are conducting the strike on the New York, Westchester & Boston Railway lines threatened yesterday to call a strike on the New York, New Haven & Hartford if the officials of the former went ahead with their plans to replace the strikers with non-union men. The Westchester Railway officials have inserted advertisements in the newspapers calling for motemen and conductors to take the place of those who walked out.

The strikers contend that the Westchester lines are controlled for the most part by stockholders of the New York, New Haven & Hartford company. No cars were run on the system yesterday, but officials of the company expect to have them moving in a day or two. Secretary Seidell, of the New York, Westchester & Boston company, said that a number of men had applied in response to the advertisements, but that none would be sent out to work unless thoroughly experienced in railroading. They will take train out, however, he declared, despite the threats of the strikers, just as soon as they are sufficiently acquainted with the road.

The strikers, under the leadership of J. H. Wilson, hold daily meetings at Mount Vernon.

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BECAUSE the Duo-Art is first and foremost a genuine piano—one of four famous makes, each of which is the finest and most lasting piano-value at its price that can be obtained anywhere. Be it the glorious Steinway, or the popular-priced but highly endorsed Stroud, it is—perfect in action, beautiful in tone—an instrument of finest quality for hand-playing.

But there are two other important reasons why your piano should be a Duo-Art. One is the privilege it accords you of playing the piano with your own musical feeling—of interpreting yourself the works of the great masters, classic and modern, even though you are not able to play by hand. For the Duo-Art is a Pianola (greatest of all player-pianos) which means 88 wonderful pneumatic fingers ready to play, with simple guidance from you, any and all piano music.

The other is the almost unbelievable power of the Duo-Art to play for you the greatest music of all time, as played by the greatest masters of today. The Duo-Art unlocks by your touch on a little lever, the greatest musical treasures this century has to offer. The actual playing of Paderewski, Hofmann, Ganz and Novae—the purest of classics played by masters to inspire and instruct the student of your household—the most captivating dance music for the young people to dance to.

Why then be satisfied with the piano that lacks these great educational and pleasure-giving privileges? The additional cost of the Duo-Art is negligible compared to the limitless pleasure it brings.

Pianos in which the Duo-Art may be obtained: STEINWAY—STECK—STROUD—WEBER

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## Bill to Regulate Packers Held Until Middle of October

Senator Kenyon Says Amendment Offered by Moses Is Put Forward to Defeat Whole Licensing Scheme

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Senator Gronna was not very hopeful that the packer legislation could be enacted much before the end of the year, if at all. Thousands of persons have asked to be heard before the committee, he said, and if all were heard the legislation probably could not be reported to the present Congress.

The chairman to-day appointed Senator Hoke Smith, of Georgia, a subcommittee of one to draft a request to all the industries that wish to send representatives to testify to decide, if possible, upon one witness to present their respective cases.

"It is not possible to limit witnesses to fifteen witnesses," Senator Gronna said. "Some of those who have appeared before us have given valuable information. Members of the committee are responsible for much waste of time, but I don't see how their question can be limited."

Senator Kenyon, author of the packers' bill, charged before the committee to-day that the amendment submitted by Senator Moses, of New Hampshire, to license all concerns engaged in interstate commerce, was put forward with the idea of defeating the whole licensing plan.

James A. Anderson, a vegetable canner, of Morgan, Utah, told the committee he opposed the bill, not because it would injure his business as it stood, but because of the proposal by Senator Moses to license all businesses.

"Well, my own idea is that the Moses amendment was introduced simply to injure the whole plan," Senator Kenyon said. "I believe we ought to have Senator Moses here to determine whether or not he expects serious consideration for his amendment."

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"I find no evidence of a monopoly in the Federal Trade Commission's report on my business," he said. "In the investigation their agents made in my plant they fixed a cost figure arbitrary, and displayed that they were either incompetent or that they had no regard for actual facts."

Under cross-examination by Senator Kenyon, Mr. Anderson said, the Federal Trade Commission had fixed the cost of his product at a lower rate than that fixed by a certified accountant, and that as a result he had to make a claim to secure an adjustment of his contracts with the government.

Bills to regulate the packers will cause an increase rather than a lowering of the cost of living, Mr. Anderson asserted. He said bankers were using great care in making loans, and the result will be that many independent food-producing enterprises will be forced to restrict their business.

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## Governor Gets Report On High Living Cost

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the cost of living. It is pointed out that with peace the already enormous export trade of this country will be greatly increased; that the coming winter will only increase the demand for food in Europe when her scanty summer crop is exhausted, and that as a result of the unexpected loss in wheat in the Middle West this country's wheat reserves will be much smaller than was promised.

At the same time it is admitted that price fixing, even if extended to all necessities, may defeat its own end by failing to encourage production next year.

The next step in Congress, it was expected to-day, will be to push through some sort of cold storage legislation. Hearings on that subject will be resumed by the House Agricultural Committee early in the week, while the Senate puts the finishing touches on the Kenyon bill.

## Union Claims Victory Secretary of Painters Says 624 Employers Have Yielded

Denying a statement by the Master Painters' Association, Philip Zoussner, secretary of the Brotherhood of Painters, Decorators and Paperhangers, yesterday affirmed that 624 boss painters have met the union's demands for \$1 an hour and a five-day week. Eleven thousand painters went on strike last week, Mr. Zoussner says nearly 8,000 painters are back at work following settlements by 624 employers.

Alfred E. Joy, secretary of the employers' body, had contended that none of the 400 members of his association had settled with the union, nor had masters' associations in The Bronx and in Harlem. He said the employers were determined not to yield to the union so long as it refuses to deal with the employers as a body.

Prompt compliance with requests for additional money to punish profiteers was promised to Mr. Palmer to-day following the commencement of hearings by the House Appropriations Committee on various requests for added funds.

The committee qualified this promise, however, by limiting its willingness to add funds deemed necessary. It is expected that the major portion of the total of more than \$2,000,000 asked by the Attorney General will be recommended by the committee early next week in the form of a deficiency bill.

Requests from other departments, however, will have hard sledding. Republican members of the committee are outspoken in their assertion that other government departments are taking advantage of the high cost of living to file requests for money which were cut out of their former estimates in the various appropriation bills.

Members of the departments in question will be given an opportunity to appear before the committee to explain how the extra funds are expected to affect the prices of necessities. The first of these hearings was held to-day.

The belief of Republican leaders is that efficient prosecution of hoarders and profiteers is the only immediate remedy to be found for the high cost of living, and therefore the Attorney General's requests will be given prompt consideration.

## Too Late for Production

It is pointed out that it is now too late in the year to expect to lower the cost of living by increasing production, and that unless Congress can draft a peace-time law embodying the provisions of the war-time food control act as well as make an effort to deflate currency and promote economy in the use of funds, the country will have to depend entirely upon Mr. Palmer and fair price committees for any decrease in the cost of necessities.

Sentiment in Congress, as revealed in the debate upon putting teeth in the food control act, generally is that Congress in itself can do little to reduce

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